

REMARKS

In the Non-Final Office Action mailed on June 18, 2004, the Examiner objected to claim 3, rejected claims 1, 4 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,225,995 to Jacobs et al. ("Jacobs"), rejected claims 2, 5-9, 11-15 and 17-21 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jacobs in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,389,467 to Eyal ("Eyal"), and rejected claims 3 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jacobs in view of Eyal and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,584,468 to Gabriel et al. ("Gabriel"). In this response, Applicants amend claim 3. Claims 1-21 are pending. Further examination and review in view of the amendments and remarks below are respectfully requested.

Applicants' Techniques

Applicants' techniques are directed to enhancing the quality of original metadata associated with a media file having a Uniform Resource Indicator (URI). Some of the techniques enhance the original metadata by adding additional metadata, which is based upon the contents of the fields in the URI, to the original metadata. This allows the media file to be searchable under the subject heading of the added metadata.

Jacobs

Jacobs discloses a mechanism for supporting multiple-request operations in a stateless environment. A server receives a request from a client, and if the request is a multiple-request operation, the server initiates an operation. After the request is processed, either by the server or another entity, the server assembles a set of state information associated with the operation. The server incorporates the state information into a URL. The server then sends the URL along with the response to the client request to the client. When the client submits a second request that relates to the same operation – e.g., the previous request – the client sends the URL that was previously provided by the server. The server receives the URL and extracts the state information from the URL, and

uses the state information to resume the previously initiated operation. The server uses the state information to resume the operation at the exact point at which the previous request stopped. After the second request is processed, the server updates the state information associated with the operation, and incorporates the state information into another URL. The server then sends the new URL along with the response to the second request to the client. This process repeats until the multi-request operation is either completed or canceled.

Eyal

Eyal discloses a mechanism that uses a database of network addresses to provide continuous streaming media playback over a network. The database associates network addresses to one or more classes of information, where each address accesses a media network resource. In various techniques, a server receives a search criteria from a network enabled device, and uses the search criteria to select at least one address in the database. The server signals the selected address to the network enabled device, and controls the network enabled device so as to automatically access and play back the media resource of the selected address.

Gabriel

Gabriel discloses a mechanism for searching for files of information relevant to people and resources in a particular field using a search list of weighted links to the files. The information is parsed into content and additional links to additional files, and the content is weighted and copied to memory. A determination is then made as to whether the additional links are relevant to the people and resources in the given technical field, and the additional links that are relevant are weighted using a predetermined weighting algorithm and copied into the search list.

I. Claim Objections

The Examiner objected to claim 3 for depending from itself. Claim 3 is amended to depend from claim 2 and no longer from itself.

II. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) and § 103(a)

All of the claims stand rejected over Jacobs, either alone or in combination with Eyal or Eyal and Gabriel. Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejections.

All of Applicants' claims include the common feature of analyzing each field of a uniform resource indicator (URI) associated with a media to identify metadata associated with each of the fields, and adding the identified metadata to an original metadata associated with the media. In rejecting the claims, the Examiner indicated that Jacobs' URI corresponds to providing analyzing each field of a URI associated with a media to identify associated metadata and adding the identified metadata to an original metadata associated with the media, as recited in all of the claims. In particular, Jacobs describes a URI which includes transaction state information and a cartridge name – which is defined as a software module (col. 6, lines 35-36). The cartridge name is used to identify a cartridge type, which is further used to identify the metadata that is associated with a browser request (col. 21, line 40-col. 22, line 15).

Applicants respectfully disagree. Jacobs does not disclose, suggest or teach analyzing each field of a URI associated with a media to identify metadata associated with each of the fields, and adding the identified metadata to an original metadata associated with the media, as recited. Instead, Jacobs describes a method for using the metadata information to identify the transaction type associated with the browser request. (col. 23, lines 54-57). In particular, after identifying the metadata, a cartridge execution engine uses the URI information to determine the state of the transaction associated with the browser request. (col. 23, line 67-col. 24 line 3). With the benefit of this state information, the processing of the browser request can resume at the exact point at which the previous request stopped. (see col. 3, lines 10-12).

While Jacobs discloses using a cartridge name contained in a URI to eventually identify metadata that is associated with the browser request, this metadata is transaction state information that is used by the cartridge to process the transaction. Thus, Jacobs' metadata is state information associated with a transaction, which is distinct from and not Applicants' metadata, which is data associated with media.

Moreover, in Jacobs, a server updates the state information associated with the operation – i.e., transaction – and incorporates the state information into another URL. (col. 3, lines 15-17). In Jacobs, the updated state information – i.e., updated metadata – is incorporated into another URL and not added to the original URL – e.g., original state information. In other words, the new state information replaces the old state information. This is in direct contrast to adding the identified metadata associated a media to an original metadata associated with the media. Likewise, Applicants are similarly unable to find any such disclosure or suggestion in Jacobs.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-21 are allowable and ask that this application be passed to allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned at (206) 359-8000.

Dated:

Respectfully submitted,

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